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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by the Reverend Dr. Silvester S. Beaman, senior pastor of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Wilmington, DE.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of grace and God of glory, as this great Hall prepares to open for another session of deliberations, we humbly submit our minds, energies, gifts, and graces to You, that we may be men and women sensitive to the concerns of a nation in great expectation.

Use the collective resolve of our Senate as Your instrument, building wholeness and peace in an age where injury, indifference, uncertainties, and deficiency swirl as an immobilizing specter.

Show us a glimpse of Your radiance, remove all doubts and fears; liberating and inspiring, until hope and possibility become a living reality.

We are forever Yours and we will be forever faithful. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 22, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I yield to my friend, the junior Senator from Delaware.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise simply to give honor and gratitude that this morning our opening prayer was offered by the Reverend Dr. Silvester Beaman of AME Zion on the East Side of Wilmington, a great voice for justice in my home State.

I think it is a critical and important part of our Nation's tradition that we begin every session of the Senate with prayerful reflection. I am thrilled that today he is able to be joined by his wife Renee, a registered nurse, and to be able to comment for a moment that Rev. Dr. Beaman, born in Niagara Falls, NY, who started his mission work and his service in Hamilton, Bermuda, with his wife, early on saw the challenges of HIV/AIDS and the risks and opportunities for worship and for mission that this pandemic provides to our community. He has been with us now 19 years in Delaware. The two of

them have been recognized far and wide in our State and region for the beautiful Gate Outreach Ministry they have launched. I think it was Dietrich Bonhoeffer who first said most tellingly that it is the charge of ministry to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted. Pastor Beaman, through his leadership, his vision, his compelling sermons, and his compelling example, in partnership with his wife Renee, has provided exactly that sort of challenging and effective leadership, that great and prophetic voice for our community in Wilmington, DE.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have his prayerful reflections begin our deliberations today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for an hour, Republicans will control the first half and the majority will control the final half. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3832. Later today, the Senate will complete action on the GSP and TAA bill. There will be up to five rollcall votes in relation to amendments and passage of this bill. I will work with the Republican leader to set a time it is convenient to do that.

FEMA

More important, now that we have arrived at an agreement on how to move the trade adjustment assistance out of here, is what is going to happen in the House.

Last week, something all too rare these days happened in this Chamber; we had some bipartisanship. Ten Republicans joined Democrats in voting to give FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the money they need to fund their important operations for the foreseeable future. The House bill would have jeopardized the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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